VOL. 72, No. 32

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

JULY 2, 2009

Council Makes Election Changes, Reacts to Sewer Back-up Problem

by Thomas X. White

With all members present at the June 22 meeting, the Greenbelt City Council had a full agenda. Among the items on their list were completing action on the package of Charter amendments relating to changes in the Greenbelt electoral process and several follow-on resolutions pertaining to actions taken by council in adoption of the city's Fiscal Year 2010 budget.

In addition, council dealt with a resolution concerning adjustments to the schedule of fees for city staff administration of the zoning powers council exercises and other items of business for which the city manager requested council direction. In effect, this meeting's agenda cleared the decks for a majority of councilmembers to head out of town for the annual Maryland Municipal League convention in Ocean City June 28 to July 1.

Added to the agenda was an issue raised by a group of homeowners from the Greenbrook Estates neighborhood who experienced simultaneous sewer backups in the basements of their homes. They sought council's assistance in their frustrations with the poor follow-up response from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC).

Sewer Backups

During the Petitions and Requests portion of the agenda, Janice Chiddo, a resident of Mathew Street in the Greenbrook Estates subdivision, and several of her neighbors requested council assistance in dealing with the WSSC following sewer backups last month in four homes. Chiddo related how sewage came up through the drains in basements with damage ranging from minor to severe.

According to the residents, the response to this incident by WSSC was very poor and that in follow-ups, WSSC has been giving the residents conflicting information on whether or not the homeowners will be compensated for the damages. Apparently WSSC informed one owner who suffered minimal damage that the agency will cover damages but has told owners of other homes whose damages were more extreme that repairs will be the homeowner's responsibility.

When WSSC made on-site inspections, their staff indicated their belief that the backups were caused by the storm drainage system rather than within their sewer system. WSSC staff refused to enter the affected homes to view the damage. City Manager Michael McLaughlin wondered how such an event could affect four homes in the subdivision and still be considered the homeowner's responsibility.

Council placed the item on the agenda and, when it was taken up later that evening, they agreed to have the city staff look further into the incident and communicate concerns to WSSC regarding the plight of the homeowners and request a response.

Election Procedures

On the agenda for second reading and adoption were two proposed charter amendments and one proposed ordinance relating to changes council has decided should be made to increase voter

See **BUDGET**, page 6

GHI Board and Council Meet, Hold Stakeholders Discussion

by Mary Moien

The Greenbelt City Council met with the board and management of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI), on June 17 in a stakeholders meeting. GHI and the city have many overlapping interests as the housing cooperative formed the major core of the original city. Topics covered included utility issues, bus service to GHI areas, street right of way issues and home inspections for code violations.

Right of Way

There are a few homes and a number of yards in GHI that lie within the right of way of various streets in Greenbelt. The most serious problems are homes on Crescent Road and several residents attended the meeting. One older woman expressed concern about the fact that the right of way actually ran through her living room. The streets around GHI have a right of way that runs from 60 to 100 feet from the center of the street. In a few cases, those footages cut into homes. Celia Craze spoke for the city, describing the process that is underway to resolve these problems.

It appears that GHI and the city are in agreement that the rights of way will be redrawn where needed, starting on Crescent Road. However, how much

it will cost and how long it will take for property lines to be redrawn are complicated by the fact the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) has to review and approve the changes. The city must petition the M-NCPPC to vacate the current property lines and then approve the redrawn ones. It is not certain what the cost will be and how the costs will be shared by GHI and the

Of additional practical concern to GHI members is any potential problem selling homes or building additions. GHI General Manager Gretchen Overdurff addressed that issue. She stated that in addition to the serious problems on Crescent Road there are about 130 yard incursion problems also on Ridge and Hillside. These involve yards only. Currently residents who have yards in the right of way can install fences, sheds or other non-permanent structures in the right of way space. No home additions can be built. Most GHI members who have a right of way problem are aware of the issue. It is hoped that the first petition, for Crescent Road, can be submitted to M-NCPPC in early fall. Although all homes will be spared, it appears that it is possible that affected yard lines might need to be redrawn with yard size reduced.

WSSC Work

Significant replacement of inground pipes is going on throughout Greenbelt. WSSC is currently working in the Boxwood and Lakewood areas. They have not gotten to GHI yet but GHI board member Sylvia Lewis stated that she wanted to be sure that GHI and the city are working together on this project. Eldon Ralph, GHI's assistant general manager, commented that there have already been several meetings with the city and WSSC. He wants to be sure that yards are restored after pipes are replaced. It appears that WSSC didn't realize how much GHI property was going to be affected. The pipe replacement will cover all of the original masonry homes. City Councilmember Ed Putens cautioned staff and members to get all discussions and promises with WSSC in writing. The project has been pushed back and it currently appears that WSSC won't begin to work on GHI property for a year or more.

Pepco

The major Pepco issue is streets lights, mainly those that are out, but also some that stay

See GHI, page 6

New Deal Café Members **Elect Audit Committee**

by Karl B. Hille

The new incarnation of the New Deal Café, which reopened on June 26, serving beer, wine, fine desserts and its signature Middle Eastern fare, now has a three-member audit committee to help prevent any future surprise lockouts.

The audit committee - Ed James, Dorian Winterfeld and Michael Hartman - was elected Monday night, June 29 after just over an hour of debate on the committee's purpose.

We used to have an audit committee," co-op board member Bill Wilkerson said, as the ad hoc elections committee were counting paper ballots. "After a while they sort of voted themselves out of existence as I understand it."

Calls for an audit committee, accountable to the membership as well as to the co-op board, were raised last month after the New Deal board closed its doors without explanation on May 13.

A motion that would have established an audit committee was scrapped at the June 7 emergency membership meeting after members learned the board and management were close to reaching a new contract agreement.

New Committee

Members at the June 29 meeting decided on a three-member committee. Members will serve one year each and cannot serve on the co-op board or be an employee of the Café. They can request information of the board or management so long as a majority of the audit committee votes to begin an investigation and can publish their findings to the membership as well as to the board.

Improving communications between members and the board was mentioned several times during the meeting as a key function of the committee.

The committee can also look into the financial statements and audit reports of the co-op and its manager, adherence to all contracts and bylaws and accounting and budget issues.

See NEW DEAL, page 6

City Police Issue Rules For July Fourth at Lake

The Greenbelt Police Department wishes everyone a happy and safe Fourth of July. To enhance holiday safety, the following guidelines are for the celebration at Buddy Attick Park (Greenbelt Lake). A tent with Police Department employees will be in the grassy area by the main parking lot to provide first aid and to help with lost and missing children.

No Alcohol/Fireworks

Do not bring alcoholic beverages to the park. Alcohol is strictly prohibited in this and all city-owned parks. Violators will be subject to arrest. Remember that all pets must be on a leash.

Fireworks are deadly, dangerous and illegal. All forms, including firecrackers, snakes, sparklers and bottle rockets are prohibited by law in Greenbelt and in all of Prince George's See FIREWORKS, page 10

County. Those found to be in possession of fireworks will be subject to arrest. Penalties include a fine up to \$1,000 and/or six months in jail.

For safety and security reasons, people carrying coolers and packages into the park may be asked to have the contents of those packages inspected.

Parking Lot

The parking lot is reserved primarily for handicapped and elderly individuals. Vehicles must have handicapped or elderly individuals onboard in order to use this lot. Handicapped tags and/or placards will not necessarily be required nor will they guarantee a parking space.

Temporary "No Parking" signs will be posted on the streets surrounding the park. Vehicles

What Goes On

Saturday, July 4

6:15 p.m., Greenbelt Concert Band at Buddy Attick Park Band-

7:30 to 9 p.m., Drumming at Bandstand Dusk (9 p.m.) Fireworks Monday and Tuesday, July 6 and 7 – Registration for Session II Swimming Lessons for Residents and Passholders, Aquatic Center. Monday, July 6

8 p.m., Council Worksession, Municipal Building

Tuesday, July 7

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Mini GED Course Municipal Building.

1 to 3 p.m., GED I and GED II

Wednesday, July 8

8 p.m., Council Worksession, Community Center

Tuesday, July 14

7 to 9 p.m., Follow-up Public Meeting on Plans for Greenbelt Middle School, Greenbelt Middle School Multipurpose Room Editorial

An Improper Meeting

Greenbelt City Councilmember Rodney Roberts is right to make an issue of a decision made by three councilmembers outside of council chambers and the statement they prepared with legal assistance for the June 8 council meeting. The failure to include all members in open meeting violated the underlying precepts of the council-manager form of government which call for open government.

On May 26, council had decided by a three-to-two vote to have staff prepare a charter amendment to provide for changing city elections to even-numbered years. Subsequently the three councilmembers supporting this decision, Mayor Judith Davis, Leta Mach and Konrad Herling, apparently had second thoughts. They discussed the matter by telephone and email, consulted with city legal counsel, agreed to withdraw support and then prepared a statement, made June 8, explaining their decision according to statements made by the three at the June 22 meeting after Roberts questioned them. All this was done apparently without the knowledge of the remaining two councilmembers. The statement read June 8 by Mayor Davis used the pronoun "we" throughout without defining who was meant, leaving the impression that it referred to the full council.

We do not fault individual councilmembers in exchanging points of view. However, when a majority of members reach an agreement and jointly issue a statement concerning the decision, a meeting has taken place whether the group was in the same room or not. Such a meeting should have been publicly called and all councilmembers notified.

We are equally concerned that legal assistance was sought in the preparation of a statement without the knowledge or involvement of all councilmembers. It is a dictum of council-manager government that if staff provides information to one member, it is provided to all other members as well.

If the information brought out at the June 22 council meeting is correct, we believe the three councilmembers erred in this matter

Letters to the Editor

THANKS!

The Charlestowne North Tenants Association (CNTA) thanks the Greenbelt Domino's Pizza and Safeway as well as all the residents who participated in Family Pizza night on Sunday, June 28. A good time was had by all. We look forward to more events in the future! Thank you CNTA board members!

Kimberly Paz, Board Member Charlestowne North Tenants Assn.

THANKS!

Thanks to all who donated blood on June 30 at the Greenbelt Municipal Building. The drive didn't start at the scheduled time, 2 p.m., because the Red Cross was missing equipment needed for the drive. The equipment arrived at 4:30 p.m. and that is the time the drive started. There were several donors who left because they could not wait.

The Greenbelt Recreation Department and the American Red Cross are trying to schedule an emergency blood drive.

Please look for the emergency blood drive date in the News Review and call Janet Goldberg at 301-397-2212.

Janet Goldberg Recreation Coordinator

Savings and Safety At Beltway Plaza

Long-time residents of Greenbelt know that Beltway Plaza has been the shopping center to shop for bargains for more than 40 years. Lifers will remember when the first discount department store, S. Klein On The Square, opened at Beltway Plaza and offered discounts never previously available anywhere. Even newcomers know that Target, the foremost discount department store in America, is conveniently located at Beltway

Plaza. A visit to the Beltway Plaza Mall website, www.BeltwayPlazaMall.com, will show you over 100 stores, restaurants and entertainment venues, including Burlington, Marshall's, Giant, Planet Fun and the recently renovated Academy Stadium Theaters.

In addition to valuable discounts on merchandise, Beltway Plaza is a good corporate citizen, striving to be of service in community-oriented ways. For example, every October, Beltway Plaza schedules a Halloween Trick or Treat and Costume Contest and each November, Beltway Plaza stages a Holiday Parade to benefit the Lions Club Toy Drive. These community events are wellplanned, enjoyable for the whole family and have show-cased children performing in creative ways. The Academy Stadium Theaters offers Greenbelt in Focus, a newsreel of current Greenbelt events, a graphic and audio presentation of the city's historic beginnings and an exhibition of childrens' animation series, shown in Theater #1 before each major motion picture.

For the past 15 years, Beltway Plaza has had a public-private partnership with the City and its Police Department. Pursuant to the partnership, Beltway Plaza has had, and financially supported, a dedicated, full-time police officer and sub-station and overtime officers on heavy traffic weekend nights. Plus, the Academy Stadium Theaters has a dedicated, uniformed Greenbelt police officer providing security there privately. Beltway Plaza's own full-time Security Department is headed by a retired District of Columbia officer and each security guard is professionally trained.

Unlike other places in the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan area, incidents requiring the attention of either Greenbelt Police or Beltway Plaza Security are rare. Both agencies patrol inside the Mall and outside in the parking lots on foot, by bicycle and automobile. Auto thefts, a problem at many installations in the county, are few and far between, due to a professional zone approach to the patrol function. Greenbelt Police statistics demonstrate that year over year, for the 12 month period of 2008 compared to 2007, calls for service decreased in the Beltway Plaza Sector by 28 percent. And, for the first four months of 2009, 93 percent of all reported incidents consisted of shoplifting and petty larceny. Most public safety attention at Beltway Plaza consists of reuniting lost children with their parents and finding patrons' cars for them in the parking lot. Even incidents of shop-lifting have been much-reduced by diligent merchant loss prevention personnel.

As you old-timers know, I have been working for Beltway Plaza for 20 years; and, if I do say so myself, despite the current economic conditions, the customers, the merchants and their employees seem to be the happiest, the most-enthusiastic and the most service-dedicated I have seen in years. Target, Marshall's and Burlington continue to offer quality goods at affordable prices. Positive changes are on the near horizon, too, for Beltway Plaza. Pretty soon, new stores and restaurants, like William's American Bistro (opened this week), will open, replacing those that have departed. Physical renovation is in the planning stage and public notice of these improvements will be forthcoming shortly.

For your own benefit, for the good of the community and to show your support for Beltway Plaza, the local merchants there and the Mall and store employees, take advantage of the convenience and bargains and shop Beltway Plaza. I pledge to you and to the community to do all that I can to make your shopping experience an enjoyable and safe one. Your comments, your suggestions, and yes, even your complaints are welcome.

Kap Kapastin kap@quantumco.net (301) 657-9900 ext 129

Correction

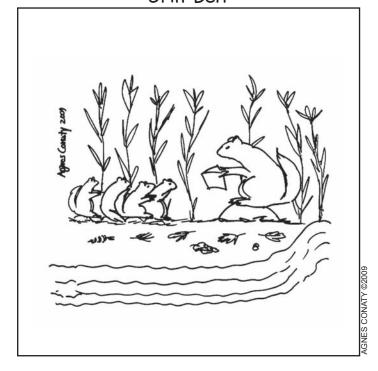
Last week's front page article on the challenge to the mayor's statement incorrectly stated that Councilmember Rodney Roberts objected to council referring the issues he had raised at that meeting to the city solicitor. That motion to refer passed unanimously.

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OLD GREENBELT

THEATRE WEEK OF JULY 3 My Sister's Keeper (PG-13) Friday *5, 7:30, 9:45 Saturday *2:30, *5, 7:30, 9:45 Sunday *2:30, *5, 7:30 Monday - Thursday *5, 7:30 *These shows at \$6.00 301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745 129 Centerway www.pandgtheatres.com

Grin Belt



"In case of inclement weather, we will watch the fireworks 4-D in an IMAX theater "

Free Jazz Concert At Center July 11

On Saturday, July 11 from 5 to 8 p.m. there will be a free outdoor jazz concert in Roosevelt Center featuring the Englar and Englar Jazz Duo, a father and son team that plays a versatile mix from be-bop to blues to ballads and bossa nova, with Clayton Englar on sax and flute and son Greg on guitar, with bassist Bob Shann joining them. This concert is produced by the New Deal Café and sponsored by the Friends of New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA), with support from the City of Greenbelt and Prince George's County.

Aviation Museum Peter Pan Club

On the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, the College Park Aviation Museum holds Peter Pan Club meetings at 10:30 a.m. The next meeting is Thursday, July 9 and includes storytime and hands-on craft activities. Families with pre-school age children are invited to join; the club is intended for little learners up to five years old.

Museum admission fees apply. The museum is at 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive in College Park. For more information call 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; James Giese, secretary; Patricia Davis; Diane Oberg; and Helen Sydavar

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Community Events

Menu for Senior **Nutrition Program**

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals need to be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for July 6 through July 10 include:

Monday -. Orange juice, baked tilapia fish with lemon butter, green beans, wheat bread and apple

Tuesday –.Grape juice, Italian sausage on a roll with green peppers and onions, penna pasta with tomato sauce, chopped collards and fruit cocktail

Wednesday -. Creamy broccoli soup with crackers, sliced turkey on wheat bread, salad, popcorn and strawberry parfait

Thursday -. Cranapple juice, backed chicken with gravy, pinto beans, chopped spinach, wheat brea and watermelon

Friday - Orange juice, sliced roast beef with gravy, mashed potatoes, California blend vegetables, oatmeal bread and sliced peaches.

At the Library

Storytimes

A librarian will read age-appropriate stories.

Tuesday, July 7, 10:30 a.m., Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months old with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, July 8, 10:30 and 11 a.m., Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver, limit 15 children for each group.

Thursday, July 9, 10:30 a.m., Drop-in Storytime for ages three to five years, limit 20 children.

Caregivers are asked to pick up a free ticket at the Children's Desk.

Teen Movie Night

Tuesday, July 7, 6:30 p.m. Drop in for a teen-interest movie. Attendees may bring their own refreshments.

Bookids

Wednesday, July 8, 6:30 p.m. Bookids for ages 8 to 12. Call branch for details (301-345-5800; TTY 301-808-2061).

GHI Notes

Friday, July 3 – Offices Closed for Independence Day Holiday (Emergency maintenance available. Call 301-474-6011.)

Monday, July 6, 7 p.m., Companion Animal Grief Support Group – GHI Library

7:15 p.m., Pre-purchase Orientation - Board Room

Tuesday, July 7, 8:30 a.m., Ad-Hoc Yard Line Committee GHI Library

7 p.m., Member & Community Relations Committee - GHI Lobby

Wednesday, July 8, 7:30 p.m., Architectural Review Committee – GHI Library

7:30 p.m., Marketing Committee - Board Room

Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.

More Community Events can be found on pages 2, 4, 11 and 12.

Community Nursing Offers Free Services

Greenbelt seniors age 60 or over and disabled adults who are at least age 50 are eligible to receive benefits at no cost from the Greenbelt Community Nursing Program, which opened enrollment on July 1. The program is a partnership between Bowie State University's School of Nursing and the City of Greenbelt Assistance in Living program.

Starting on Friday, September 11 home visits from Bowie State University student nurses will be scheduled on Fridays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Participants will receive up to 10 home visits.

Free services to be offered include assistance with bathing, blood sugar monitoring, finger sticks, health education, vital signs monitoring, patient advocacy with health care professionals and medication management.

Space is limited to 30 participants. To enroll call Sharon Vanzego at 301-412-2480.

Greenbelters Take Six Games in a Row

The Greenbelters of the Baltimore Beltway Senior Softball League closed out June with six straight wins. First they took a doubleheader from Bowie Gold by 10-7 and 13-6, led by the hitting of Phil Olsen, John Benish, Dave Kerr, Harlan Park and Jasper Pendergrass. Next Greenbelt beat Bowie Bronze, 14-11, as clean-up hitter Pendergrass drove in six runs with two home runs and a single while Benish garnered four hits and George Harrison and Joe Battle had three each.

Then, behind manager-pitcher Ray Reed, they beat Carroll County Grey by 2-1 as Olsen singled in the winning run in the ninth inning. In a 13-12 slug fest the next day, with Paul Williams and Bob Smith splitting the pitching, Harrison homered with two men on base and Benish had three hits.

Finally, with Reed back on the mound against the Howard County Hitters, Kerr doubled in the winning run in the ninth for a 9-8 victory. Also weighing in during the win streak were Fred Bohle, Larry Dandridge, Jim Dugan, Jim Harbaugh, Burt Kerr, Luis Rivera, Irv Salzberg, Michael Schultz, John Strekel and Willie White.

Computer Club Meets

will hold its July meeting on Thursday, July 9 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center in Room 103. Everyone is welcome.

GAIL Guide Online

In an effort to reduce postage and paper costs, the GAIL Guide will now be available by email.

Those who would like to participate are asked to visit www. greenbeltmd.gov and scroll down to the section of the front page entitled Publications. Click on the GAIL Guide to read the newsletter online. Complete the online registration form to receive the GAIL Guide by email quarterly. If the form is not completed, a paper copy of the newsletter will continue to be

GAIL appreciates support for its green effort.

July 5 Artful Afternoon Features Shadow Arts

Photograms, shadow puppets and a photography exhibit provide a cool respite from the hot holiday weekend at the July Artful Afternoon to be held at the Greenbelt Community Center on Sunday, July 5.

Make shadow puppets inspired by world folktales in a handson project for all ages

with artist Daniel Barash from 1 to 3 p.m. At 3 p.m., Barash will perform a shadow puppet show with audience participation. Barash has performed one-man educational theater programs for more than 100,000 students across the United States and has worked with students in Belarus, India, Laos and Lithuania

Print photograms in the darkroom with artist David Ashman. Participants are encouraged to bring small, interesting objects to cast a permanent shadow with the help of the enlargers. This workshop is offered in celebration of the opening of the Greenbelt Photo Club exhibition in the Community Center Art Gallery.

Photography Exhibit

Check out the photography of friends and neighbors in the exhibit "A Kingdom of Clean Air: The Greenbelt Photo Club Interprets Pablo Neruda's Book of Questions." The club provides a forum



Artists Dan Barash will lead a hands-on shadow puppet project for all ages.

for area residents to share their love of photography in its many forms. The group sponsors exhibitions, lectures, competitions and monthly open meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Greenbelt Community Center. For more information email club president Anita Woodruff at greenbeltphotoclub@yahoo. com. A reception will be held Sunday, August 2 from 2 to 4 p.m. The show will remain on display through August 7.

Every month Greenbelt's Artful Afternoon offers a studio open house with the Center's artistsin-residence, Greenbelt Museum historic home tours and a current historical exhibit. Activities are open to the public and free with the exception of a nominal fee for the house tour.

For more information about City of Greenbelt art programs, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts or call 240-542-2057.

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday 10 – 4 p.m.

Good, clean clothes for women, men and children! Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111

Academy Stadium **Theatres**

Beltway Plaza Mall Center Court 301-220-1155

ALL SHOWS BEFORE 5 p.m. Adults/Seniors: \$6.50 Children: \$6.00

ALL SHOWS BEFORE NOON ON SATURDAY \$5.00 ALL SHOWS AFTER 5 p.m.

Adults: \$8.50 Students/Military: \$7.50 Children: \$6.00 Seniors: \$6.50

R = ID Required (!) = No pass, (!!) No pass weekend

Week of July 2

THUR.

Taking of Pelham 123, R (!) 11:15, 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 8:50 The Proposal, PG-13 11:15, 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 8:50 Transformers 2, PG-13 (!) 11, 11:30, 2:15, 2:45, 5:30, 6, 9, 9:20

Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs, PG

11:15, 11:40, 1:35, 2, 4, 4:20, 6:20, 6:40, 8:50, 9:15 Public Enemies, R (!) 11, 2:15, 5:30, 9 The Hangover, R 11:30, 2, 4:20, 6:40, 9:15

FRI. - SAT. Taking of Pelham 123, R (!) 11:45, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20 The Proposal, PG-13 11:45, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20 Transformers 2, PG-13 (!) 11:30, 12, 2:45, 3:25, 6:30, 6:45, 9:40, 10:10

Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs, PG (!!)

11:45, 12:15, 2:15, 2:45, 4:30, 5, 6:45, 7:15, 9, 9:30 Public Enemies, R (!) 11:30, 2:45, 6:30, 10 The Hangover, R 12:15, 2:45, 5, 7:15, 9:30

SUN. - MON. Taking of Pelham 123, R (!) 11:15, 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 8:50 The Proposal, PG-13 11:15, 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 8:50 Transformers 2, PG-13 (I) 11, 11:30, 2:15, 2:45, 5:30, 6, 9, 9:20

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4th of July Fantabulous Fun Fair

St. Hugh's Schoo

June through August 2009

Open Enrollment

K-8th Grade (Openings Available in Most Grades)

Children of All Faiths are Welcome!

Quality Education – Reasonable Tuition

(Tuition Assistance & Family Discounts are Available)

145 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

301-474-4071 www.sthughs.com

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Races ★ Tournaments ★ Games Crafts ★ Face painting ★ Moonbounce Pony Rides ★ Book Sale ★ Bake Sale Rummage Sale ★ Vendors ★ Texas BBQ Silent Auction ★ Bicycle Decorating Contest Patriotic Pet Contest ★ Entertainment Science Demonstrations ★ Much, Much, More!

Come Join The Fun!!

St. Hugh's Church & School 135-145 Crescent Road

Greenbelt, MD 20770

See our website for event schedules and registration details www.sthughs.com Rain date, July 5th, Noon – 8:00 p.m.

Obituaries

Dorothy Davis

Former Greenbelter Dorothy M. Davis, 86, died on June 24, 2009. She was a resident of Manzano del Sol Good Samaritan Center. Mrs. Davis was a member of the First Unitarian Church in Albuquerque, N.M.

She was born on May 7, 1923, in Fairchance, Penna. Mrs. Davis and her family were original residents of Lakeside Drive. They were one of two families to make available parts of their backyard to the city in order that a pathway could be built around Greenbelt Lake.

She was active in the League of Women Voters and Maryland and local associations for retarded children. Her husband Leo retired from Goddard Space Flight Center and her son Gary was an employee of the Greenbelt Public Works Department.

Mrs. Davis was predeceased by her husband Leo R. Davis. She is survived by her sons Paul S. Davis and Gary S. Davis and sister-in-law Walterine Carson.

A memorial service was held on June 29 at First Unitarian Church in Albuquerque. Contributions in her memory may be made to the ARCA Foundation, 11300 Lomas Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112.

Cooking in the Raw: More than Veggies

Tania Mercer, chef, instructor and nutrition advisor, will demonstrate techniques and tricks to make delicious, mouth-watering food without cooking a thing. Come join and taste firsthand what the "raw" movement is all about.

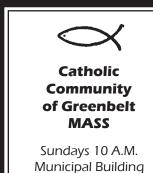
This class is vegan-friendly and gluten-free. Recipes will include strawberry and spinach salad with a paprika-lime vinaigrette, zucchini noodles with pomodoro sauce and decadent and magical chocolate pudding.

Class is held on Wednesday, July 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Conservatory Classroom at the U.S. Botanic Garden. Pre-registration is required. Call 202-225-1116 to register for code DC070809.

Wanderers Host **Breakfast Walk**

The Freestate Happy Wanderers will host a breakfast walk starting at 7:30 a.m. on Monday, July 5 at the Elks Lodge in Severna Park. The trail is on natural surfaces, country roads, the B&A Park and Kinder Farm Park trails and finishes by 1 p.m. The Elks will serve a hot allyou-can-eat breakfast and suggest wearing red, white and blue.

Call 410-437-2164 or 301-717-3604 before 8 p.m. or email wahasse@ix.netcom.com. The website is at http://www.ava.org/ gen3/data/event_event_details. asp?eventid+82264. There is a fee.



Metro Launches NextBus Program, Includes Greenbelt

by Joel Mason-Gaines

As of July 1 more than 12,008 Metrobus stops, including ones located in Greenbelt, will feature NextBus technology. The new NextBus structure uses a global positioning system and computer modeling to track buses as they make stops on their routes. The computer modeling takes into account many factors, such as the time of day and whether or not schools are in session, to predict when buses will arrive at each designated stop.

Commuters will be able to check the status of their bus through internet updates every two minutes at wmata.com. There is also the option of calling the number posted on the new, round, red, white and blue NextBus signs which have been placed at all bus stops.

Many people have been deterred from riding Metrobuses in the past because of their unpredictability and reliance on a paper schedule. Metro hopes the new system will encourage more ridership since less time will be wasted waiting for bus arrivals.

If more people rode the bus it would reduce street congestion as well as CO, emissions from cars, which contribute to global climate change. The many electric-hybrid and natural gas-powered buses in Metro's fleet also limit pollution.

A pilot NextBus program by Metro operated at 80 percent efficiency. Metro hopes the new full-fledged system will operate at 90 percent efficiency.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410 Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00am

Worship Service 10:00am

Prayer Meeting Sun. 9:45 am

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church



3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

July 5, 10 a.m.

"My Country, My Country" by Leo Jones, guest speaker and Don Henderson, worship associate

Early American naval hero Stephen Decatur, often misquoted, said "my country, may she ever be right but right or wrong, my country, my country." What does patriotism require of every person?

IN HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Summer Worship: One service at 9:30 am through September 6, 2009 (No Sunday School/Bible Study)



Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH 135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4322



Mass Schedule: Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m. Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m. Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd

Congregation Mishkan Torah 10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223 An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM.

Educational programs for children K–12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children.

Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development.

Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation



This 8-point buck carefully watches photographer Neal Barnett while munching on mulberry leaves at 54 Lakeside Drive.

St. George's Episcopal Church

Join us around a table where all are welcome!



Sundays

8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)

10 a.m. main service

(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)

Wednesdays

7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road) 301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

Know thou assuredly that the essence of all the Prophets of God is one and the same. Their unity is absolute. God, the Creator, saith: There is no distinction whatsoever among the Bearers of My Message. They all have but one purpose; their secret is the same secret. To prefer one in honor to another, to exalt certain ones above the rest, is in no wise

to be permitted. (Bahá'u'lláh)



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community 1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918 Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.bahai.us



Greenbelt Baptist Church

101 Greenhill Road Greenbelt, MD 20770 - (301) 474-4212 www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Welcome! Sunday

Sunday

9:45 am **Sunday School**

11:00 am **Worship Service** Wednesday 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

ALL are Welcome!

Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family Through Loving Service

Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings www.greenbeltucc.org

Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m. Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."



Bible Study & Worship

9:30 "Good Morning!!" Coffee and Snacks 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Worship

Greenbelt Youth Center 99 Centerway (Behind the Community Center)

We want you to be a part of our celebration and worship! 301-474-4499

...living life together



Condolences to the family and friends of Sarah ("Sally") Crowe, who died June 28, 2009. Mrs. Crowe, a native of Ireland, and her three daughters Kathy Fern, Veronica Crowe and Judy Crowe, were longtime Greenbelters.

Greenbelters were saddened to hear of the death of former resident Dorothy Davis in Albuquerque, N.M.

Congratulations to:

- Leslie Alston, who attended the international young women's leadership conference Women2Women – Jordan (W2W) Alumni Summit in Amman, Jordan, from June 26 through July 2. She is among 50 of the most promising young women alumni from the U.S. and Middle Eastern world age 15 to 22 taking part in the "Leadership in Action" program that includes leadership, women's rights, government and politics, business and media. The group will also participate in a series of cultural and community service events throughout Jordan.
- Harrison Hilliard, son of Leslie and Larry Hilliard, who was honored again by the Dean of the College of Business Administration for his academic standing. Harrison is a rising junior at the University of Central Florida in Orlando.
- Katrina Boverman, who has received her second Master's degree, a Master of Arts in Applied Healing Arts from Tai Sophia Institute for the Healing Arts in Laurel. The school was founded in 1975 as one of the first acupuncture schools in the United States and integrates acupuncture, philosophy, spirituality and psychology.

The Greenbelt Tennis Association has joined World Team Tennis and so received a welcoming letter from that group's founder, Billy Jean King. This recreational league promotes "health, fitness, education and social change" through tennis.

Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers. To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at newsreview@greenbelt. com or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

. – Kathleen McFarland

Friday Afternoons For Aviator Kids

Every Friday afternoon from 2 to 4:30 p.m., families with school-age children are invited to the Afternoon Aviators program at the College Park Aviation Museum. The program includes hands-on aviation-themed activities every week.

Museum admission fees apply; there is no additional charge for the Afternoon Aviators program.

The museum is at 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive in College Park. For more information call 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544.

The Devil's Christmas Carol
Perfomances

Perfomances
Sat. 7/11 at 5 pm, Sun. 7/12 at 8 pm,
Sun. 7/ 19 at 3:45 pm, &
Sat.7/25 at 10 pm.

Tickets are \$15.00 per person.
For more information visit
www.capitalfringe.org,
and search for us under "Devil" or

call (866) 811-4111 Come and see us at the 2009 Capital Fringe Fest



City Information

4TH OF JULY FANFARE BUDDY ATTICK PARK SATURDAY, JULY 4TH

* FREE KIDS CRAFTS
*GREENBELT CONCERT BAND
*COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE
*FIREWORKS AT DUSK

Help support Greenbelt's volunteer organiza- **
tions! Concessions by Greenbelt Babe Ruth!

INFO: GREENBELT CITYLINK www.greenbeltmd.gov

Please be sure to observe all posted parking regulations. Alcohol and personal fireworks (including sparklers) are NOT permitted in the park. In case of inclement weather, call the Weather and Information Hotline at 301-474-0646

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups.
Vacancies exist on the:

Green Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Youth Advisory Committee, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Arts Advisory Board, Community Relations Advisory Board, Public Safety Advisory Committee

For more info call 301-474-8000.

Members of City Advisory Boards and Committees are eligible for half-price annual individual or family memberships at the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center.

SWIM MEETS AT GREENBELT AQUATIC AND FITNESS CENTER...The GAFC will be hosting swim meets on **July 4th and July 18th.** The OUTDOOR pool will open at 1:00pm on these days. The Indoor pool will open at 8:00am; however Children's Lessons occupy all open swim areas through 12:00 noon. Indoor Lap lanes are available at this time.

CHILDREN'S SWIM LESSONS SESSION II JULY-14-17 & JULY 21-24

Passholders and Residents Register: July 6 & 7 Open Registration: July 8

For more information call 301-397-2204 or download Recreation Brochure at www.greenbeltmd.gov

GREENBELT CARES BABYSITTING COURSE

Wednesday, July 8 from 1pm-4pm Greenbelt Municipal Building

This is a free course targeted toward students completing grades 5-8. Students will learn responsibility and health and safety issues of taking care of children, as well as learning about poison control and fire prevention.

Students who complete the course will receive a certificate of completion and be eligible to participate in Greenbelt CARES ODD JOBS/JOB BANK program.

For additional information and enrollment, call 301-345-6660, ext. 2016.

SUMMER GED MINI COURSE

Greenbelt CARES begins the SUMMER 4-WEEK-GED MINI-COURSE on Tuesday, JULY 7, 2009. Course for Greenbelt residents is free, \$75 for non-Greenbelt residents. Students will be required to purchase calculators and textbooks as well. Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday, for 4 weeks in the Municipal Building. GED I begins 10:30 - 12:30, GED II begins 1:00 - 3:00.

For enrollment information, call CARES, 345-6660, ext. 2016 or email: jhering@greenbeltmd.gov

Start gathering your old and unwanted electronics for...

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

SATURDAY, JULY 25

9am-12pm

Public Works Facility, 555 Crescent Road

Notice of Charter Amendment Resolutions

At its regular meeting of June 22, 2009, the City Council adopted two resolutions to amend the City Charter. As required by state law, these resolutions will be posted in their entirety for 40 days, until August 1, 2009, at the Municipal Building, as well as on the City's Web site at www.greenbeltmd.gov. Copies may also be requested of the City Clerk. The charter amendment resolutions will become effective on August 11, 2009, unless a proper petition to submit the amendment(s) to the voters on a referendum is filed by August 1, 2009, as permitted by law. As also required by state law, this notice is given to provide a fair summary of both resolutions.

Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2009-1

A Resolution of The City of Greenbelt Adopted Pursuant to the Authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and Section 13 of Article 23a of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (1957 Edition as Amended), Title, "Corporation-Municipal," Subtitle "Home Rule" to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt Found, in Whole or in Part, in the Compilation of Municipal Charters of Maryland (1983 Edition As Amended), as Prepared by the Department of Legislative Services Pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1983, by Adding a New Section 27a, Titled "Early Voting" (Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2009-1)

The purpose of the above-titled resolution is to allow for early voting in Municipal elections.

Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2009-2

A Resolution of The City of Greenbelt Adopted Pursuant to the Authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and Section 13 of Article 23a of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (1957 Edition as Amended), Title, "Corporation-Municipal," Subtitle "Home Rule" to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt Found, in Whole or in Part, in the Compilation of Municipal Charters of Maryland (1983 Edition As Amended), as Prepared by the Department of Legislative Services Pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1983, by Amending Paragraph (A) of Section 4, Titled "Creation; Qualifications; Compensation" and Section 31 Titled "Election Of Council" to Increase the Size of the Council from Five to Seven Members (Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2009-2)

The purpose of the above-titled resolution is to increase the size of the City Council to seven members.

For additional information, contact Cindy Murray, City Clerk, at 301-474-8000 or cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov.



GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER PETS OF THE MONTH

Puppies: 12 week old male and female Rottweiler puppies. Very cute and cuddly.



Becky: Very friendly black and white female.

Tara: Beautiful Long Haired Calico: female, 1 year old.



Kittens: The

Greenbelt Animal Shelter has several adorable kittens that are now available for adoption.

Visit pets at the Greenbelt Animal Shelter on Wednesdays, from 4-7pm and on Saturdays from 9am-12pm.

For more information on any of these pets, call 301.474.6124.

FOLLOW-UP PUBLIC MEETING ON PLANS FOR GREENBELT MIDDLE SCHOOL TUESDAY, JULY 14 FROM 7-9PM GREENBELT MIDDLE SCHOOL MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

8950 Edmonston Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

This is a public community meeting on the progress for the plans for Greenbelt Middle School.

Greenbelt CityLink: www.greenbeltmd.gov. Also, become a fan of Greenbelt now on FaceBook!

COUNCIL continued from page 1

participation, make it easier for citizens to vote and help in some way to increase diversity on the city council. These pieces of legislation represent a culmination of over a year's activity by council to address concerns raised in a February 2008 letter from the American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland (ACLU) and the Prince George's County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

The first item was an ordinance adding the newly created Precinct 18 to the city code. This new polling place would be the city's fifth, with one in Greenbelt West (precinct 8), two in central Greenbelt (precincts 3 and 6) and now two in Greenbelt East (precincts 13 and 18).

It was noted at the meeting that the Greenbelt Board of Elections is looking at several possible locations for voting within the new precinct. Among these are the Turning Point Academy on Good Luck Road just outside the city limits, the Hunting Ridge Community Center and the community building at Schrom Hills Park. The ordinance passed unanimously.

Early Voting

The second election reform measure was a resolution to amend the city charter for a more liberal use of early voting by citizens registered to vote. Davis noted that if this resolution is adopted, the next step would require work with the city's Board of Elections to determine the particular features of early voting appropriate for Greenbelt elections and to spell out details in a subsequent ordinance before the upcoming election.

This resolution was adopted by a four-to-one vote with Roberts continuing his objection that this and the next proposed charter amendment represent significant changes for Greenbelt voters and that he believes they should have been proposed as questions for the voters in non-binding ballots at the time of the upcoming election. Roberts feels that early voting may have a harmful effect on nonincumbents in future elections. Other members of council discounted that possibility.

The last election measure up for adoption in the form of a Resolution for a Charter Amendment dealt with increasing the size of the Greenbelt City Council from the current five to seven members, all elected at-large. This change was also approved by a four-to-one vote with Roberts repeating his objections. He argued that the changes should not be made by council without greater participation in the discussion by Greenbelt voters.

As reported in the June 25 News Review, the proposal to move the date for Greenbelt City Council elections from the current odd-numbered to even years to coincide with county, state and federal elections was subsequently removed from the agenda of the June 8 meeting as no longer being considered by the current council.

However, at the June 22 meeting, Roberts strongly challenged the statement made by Davis accompanying her request for removal of that item from the June 8 agenda. Council then voted to have the timeline and the appropriateness of the mayor's statement reviewed by the city solicitor and to have a report provided to council on his findings.

Other Resolutions

In action on other resolutions, council gave unanimous final approval of a new name for the former Recycling and Environmental Committee (REAC). REAC had been established by council in 1999 with a general charge that covered the city's recycling program and other environmental issues. This year the committee expressed a desire to include sustainability within their scope and requested a name change. The adopted resolution changes the committee's name to the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (GreenACES).

Also approved unanimously were two resolutions stemming from the city's adopted FY10 budget. One resolution establishes new service charges for garbage, trash and recycling collections - \$60 per quarter for refuse and recycling and \$30 per year for recycling only.

Another resolution given final approval involves the transfer of appropriations between departments in the General Fund. This action is in effect a balancing act as the city code requires that actual expenditures should not exceed the appropriation for each functional area in the General Fund (i.e., Public Safety, Public Works, etc.).

The resolution effects transfers from functional areas in which savings have occurred to other functional areas that will probably exceed their adopted budget. Such a transfer must occur before the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2009).

A resolution to establish new admission fees and pass rates for the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center, effective September 8, 2009, following the seasonal close of the outdoor pool was introduced for first reading. The new rate schedule reflects increases of 5 percent for pass rates and a daily admission increase of

Also introduced for first reading was another perennial resolution authorizing the negotiated purchase of certain goods and services from selected vendors when expected total fiscal year purchases from each vendor exceeds \$10,000. Such a resolution is necessary to allow city staff to avoid obtaining bid proposals in cases where individual purchases exceed the \$10,000 threshold for seeking bids if the vendors are sole source or the best source of purchase or where the city's purchases are based upon bids taken by other agencies.

A third resolution introduced for first reading would update the fees the city applies to its exercise of limited zoning authorities granted by the Prince George's County District Council, such as for design standards, landscaping, parking and loading standards, signs and variances. The changes will keep the city's fee schedule in line with what the county charges for the same services.

McLaughlin indicated that the increases will have little effect on the FY10 budget.

Other Actions

McLaughlin also advised council of a recent award in the amount of \$26,499 in a U.S. Department of Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). He noted that the Police Department recommends using the JAG award to purchase interoperable portable, mobile or fixed radio equipment.

It would be used for such purchases in conjunction with other federal grant programs. McLaughlin noted that any such purchase would have to await county development of an overall multi-jurisdiction communications system, which he estimates is about two years away.

Regarding another grant opportunity, the city's Planning and Community Development Department recommends that the city submit an Expression of Interest form to the Maryland Highway Safety Office for a Safe Routes to School program grant for the Springhill Lake Elementary School area. This request, approved by council, was covered in a separate article in the June 25 News Review.

Council ratified its June 15 worksession consensus decision relating to the location and design features for a Doctors Hospital "Gateway" sign at the intersection of Good Luck Road and Hanover Parkway for their new Health Campus. Council agreed to express support for the sign with four conditions: 1. The city will be provided a copy of the landscape plan for the sign to review and comment on; 2. No trees will be taken down for installation of the sign; 3. Trees will be planted behind the wall. 4. Solar-powered lighting will be considered for the sign.

Council reacted favorably to a staff recommendation on a proposed city submission to the Maryland Municipal League's (MML) legislative program for 2010. Staff suggested that a legislative action request be submitted to MML regarding Funding/Incentives for Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Stations.

Finally, council agreed with a staff recommendation to support a proposed county bill requiring a special exception for new check cashing establishments in the county. Most councilmembers agreed with the intent of the bill and expressed concern about a proliferation of such establishments and how they are perceived in area neighborhoods

Roberts took a different view. He said he utilizes such establishments because of their more convenient hours than those of most banks. He seemed relieved when staff noted that the proposed bill would apply only to new establishments.

Joel Mason-Gaines contributed to this article.

The Bus Seniors and Disabled Customers RIDE FREE

GHI continued from page 1

on all day and night. City Manager Mike McLaughlin indicated that an employee drives city streets each month to note lights that are out. In addition, residents call the city. The city then notifies Pepco. In his opinion, the situation is improving but not all residents were in agreement. There was discussion about which lights belong to the city and which belong to GHI. City lights are maintained by Pepco, GHI lights are not. It also appears that there is no centralized list of lights, where they are located or who is responsible for them. The city and GHI may work together more on the lighting issues.

A specific lighting problem was discussed regarding a path near the 11 and 13 courts of Ridge Road. A new bench was installed and it is in an underlighted area and has become a magnet for "negative activity." It could be considered a public safety issue. Was it a GHI light area or a city light area? Although the area is in GHI, it is considered a major walkway and Ralph indicated that the lighting belonged to the city. The city agreed. Although McLaughlin indicated that the bench is "in a nice spot coming up the hill" from Crescent, it could be moved to a more open area. It was proposed to move the bench closer to Ridge Road; a survey of affected residents will be undertaken first. The family who dedicated the bench will also be contacted.

Bus Service

The next discussion was on the city and transportation issues. Bus routes in the city and other areas are being reviewed to reduce redundancy. Mayor Judith Davis asked how many of those present belonged to TRU Transit Riders United. Almost half of the GHI board raised their hands. TRU has met with County Councilmember Ingrid Turner to discuss Greenbelt concerns. One issue is "stacking." It often appears that all buses come at one time and then there are none. Buses could be scheduled better.

Davis indicated that College Park has a contract with the University of Maryland (UM) buses to pick up other residents. The city is looking into that possibility as much of the city has a UM bus route. It is possible that College Park is paying UM about \$10,000 per year. It was mentioned that the UM bus no longer serves Empirian Village (formerly Springhill Lake Apartments) as the new owners did not pay a required fee.

A question about purchasing a small city bus was raised by a GHI board member. Davis said that a small bus has been discussed as long as she's been on the council. The city will soon increase the Greenbelt Connection availability to seven days a week. This is an "on demand" vehicle that will pick up individuals but they have to call in and make a reservation a day ahead. During discussion of options, it was stated that University Park runs buses to the Metro just during the morning and evening rush hours. The city relatively recently estimated costs for an intracity route of two vans and two drivers at a cost of \$186,000 per year. Councilmember Konrad Herling mentioned that TRU was talking about how increased transportation could help to unify the city.

Home Inspections

GHI management conducts an exterior home and yard inspection each year. But some residents have also been cited by the city for code violations. Overdurff indicated that some people have received several city notices but the language was not consistent, leaving the resident confused. Craze described the city process. She indicated that the city has employees who drive through all neighborhoods looking for code violations. Most often, however, a neighbor will call with a complaint. She indicated that the letters use very specific language but that the "hang tag" notices often have hand written comments which are less standard. Currently GHI does not inform the city if it is working on a serious housing problem. However, the city should contact GHI (as well as the home occupant) if it discovers a code violation as GHI is the ultimate owner of the units. In serious cases, GHI and the city work together to try to get the members or the cooperative to bring the home up to required standards.

NEW DEAL continued from page 1

Disagreement broke out over a op members steered away from proposal by member Bill Duncan some of the most vocal critics of clarifying that the audit committee served a purely advisory function.

"I want to make sure that it is not a management function. It's not a policy and decision-making body," Duncan said. "The bylaws say the board is responsible for management and policy. There was a groundswell recently that we were going to somehow tell the board how to operate and how to run things."

Counter-proposal

A counter-proposal offered by Joan Whelan clarifying that the reports of the committee not be ignored, failed to pass before Duncan's proposal was approved unanimously.

In electing the committee, co-

the board, especially those who led online and physical protests against the May 13 closure and petition drives.

Wilkerson said he hoped audit committee members would consider moving up to the co-op board after their year on the committee. "I'm getting tired and I'm not sure I can do another term," he said.

Board member Terri Rutledge said she was partially energized by the newfound interest in the Café's business. "I'm just sorry it took all this controversy to bring us together. Everybody made mistakes on both sides. We hope that we can have a profitable and productive relationship from now on," she said.



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<u>Community-Owned</u>
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121 CENTERWAY, ROOSEVELT CENTER

Farm Fresh Produce				
Sweet Peaches	Roasting Potatoes 3 lb. bag			
Fresh Crisp Cut & Peeled Baby Carrots 1 lb.	Juicy 99th. Nectarines			
Sweet Northwest Cherries \$ 149 Ib.	Large Crisp \$ 169 Lettuce head			

	Fresh Qu		
Fresh Lean Beef \$ 1 29 Boneless Top Round London Broil	Fresh Value Pack Whole Chicken Legs	Fresh Value Pack 85% Lean Ground Beef	Fresh Lean Boneless Whole Pork Loin cut free
Fresh Lean Beef Bone-In Rib Eye Steaks	Fresh Value Pack Chicken Thighs or Drumsticks	Hatfield Meat Franks Assorted 1 lb.	Jimmy Dean Breakfast Entrees Assorted 7-8 oz. BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

Dairy		Deli	Frozen		
Shurfine Grade A Large 89¢ White Eggs dozen	Tropicana Pure Premium Orange Juice Assorted 59-64 oz.	Deli Gourmet Virginia Ib. Cooked Ham Deli Gourmet Cooked Deli Gourmet Cooked Deli Gourmet Deli Gourmet Deli Gourmet Deli Gourmet Deli Gourmet Deli Gourmet Deli Gourmet Deli Gourmet Deli Gourmet	Banquet \$ 125 Assorted Dinners Assorted 5-10 oz.	Celeste Pizza for One Assorted 5-6 oz.	
Crowley Sour Cream Regular/Lite 16 oz. Health & Beauty	Shurfine American Cheese Singles 16 oz.	Cooked Salami Deli Gourmet \$299 Ib. Cheese	Shurfine \$ 150 Orange Juice Assorted 12 oz. Natural & Gourmet	Green's Premium Ice Cream Assorted 1.5-1.75 qt. Bakery	
Western Family 199 Disposable Razors 12 pk.		Milk Mustache Fun Event Fri., July 10, 11am - 1pm	Hardon House Artichoke Hearts 8-10 size 13.75 oz.		
Tresemme Hair Care Products Assorted 4-32 oz.	Raw 599 Ib. Gulf Shrimp	 Stop by CO-OP for FREE Product Sampling Chair Massage Health Assessments Smoothie Samples Milk Mustache Photo 	Medfords Farms Honey Bear 12 oz.	Fresh Store Baked Cherry Pie 8 inch	
Lipton Assorted Noodle & Sauce or Rice & Sauce 4-5 oz.	Chicken of the Sea	Grocery Bargains Muellers Assorted Pasta 16 oz.	Prego \$200 Pasta Sauce Assorted 25-26 oz.	Tide 2X Liquid Laundry Detergent 50 oz.	
Lucky Leaf 3/\$500 Apple Juice 64 oz.	Shurfine Peanut Butter Assorted 18 oz.	Sunmaid Seedless Raisins 24 oz.	Shurfine Barbecue Sauce Assorted 18 oz.	Hunt's \$ 125 Whole or Diced Tomatoes Assorted 14.5 oz.	

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Steeple Jack \$69 Wines Assorted 750 ML

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Beer & Wine

Miller
Genuine Draft

969

Beer 12 pk.–12 oz. cans

Corbett \$699 Wines 1.5 Liter Montes Classic Series

Wines Asst. 750 ML.

Molson Beer Asst. 6 pk.–12 oz. bottles Don't miss all of CO-OP's other great specials featured in our 6-page full color ad flier here in your News Review And now you can find our entire weekly ad online at

www.greenbelt.coop Check it out!

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12							

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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robberies

June 20, 4:32 a.m., 5700 block Cherrywood Lane, a youth approached a person and demanded money. The youth assaulted the person and then fled the area. An officer and K9 responded to the area and were able to locate the youth hiding in a nearby field. The suspect, later identified as a resident, was petitioned for attempted strong arm robbery and second-degree assault and was released to the juvenile justice system.

June 24, 7:34 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace, a delivery person was approached by two men who assaulted him and demanded the food he was delivering. The men stole the delivery person's cell phone and fled on foot. The suspects are described as two black males in their 20s, both 160 pounds with black hair in collar-length dreadlocks, wearing dark clothing. One was 5'11" and the other 5'10".

Drug Arrest

June 24, 10:48 a.m., Springhill Drive at Market Lane, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with possession with intent to distribute PCP in a school zone, possession with intent to distribute PCP and possession of PCP. The man was released to the Department of Corrections for

a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Disorderly Conduct

June 24, 8:32 p.m., Walker Drive at Greenbelt Road, a non-resident man was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. He was released on citation pending trial.

Vandalism

June 24, 12:27 p.m., Roosevelt Center, graffiti was found on benches, lockers and flag poles.

Burglaries

June 21, 7:04 p.m., 9200 block Edmonston Road, numerous containers of paint were taken from a vacant townhome. The suspects are described as an Hispanic male, 11 to 13 years old with black hair, wearing a white T-shirt and light colored shorts; and a black male, 11 to 13 years old with black hair, wearing dark clothing.

June 23, 6:52 a.m., 7200 block South Ora Court, nothing was reported taken but the front door was damaged.

June 23, 8:37 a.m., 8100 block Lakecrest Drive, nothing was reported taken but the door was damaged. A man of no fixed address was arrested and charged with fourth-degree burglary. He was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

June 23, 9:25 p.m., 9100 block

Edmonston Road, it was reported that a laptop, a television, a computer and speakers were taken.

June 24, 1:50 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane. An attempted burglary was reported. The suspects are described as black males, 11 to 16 years old, with thin builds and black hair. One was wearing a white T-shirt and blue jeans, one was wearing dark clothing and another was carrying a backpack.

Vehicle Crimes

The following vehicles were reported stolen: a green 1997 Nissan Maxima 4-door, Maryland tag 8EBK08 from the 5800 block Cherrywood Lane; a brown 1997 Jeep Grand Cherokee, New York tag EJV6074 from the 9000 block Breezewood Court; a dark green 1996 Toyota Corolla 4-door, Maryland tag GMA945 from the 7800 block Emily's Way; and a 2004 Toyota Corolla 4-door, Maryland tag 8CXR94 from Cherrywood Lane and Cherrywood Court.

One vehicle was recovered by Prince George's police with three arrests made. Three vehicles were

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information lead-

ing to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes

reported in the blotter. People may anonymously report suspected drug

activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

recovered by Greenbelt police; charges are pending in one case. Stolen tags were recovered, one set by Greenbelt police and a rear tag by the owner; no arrests were made.

Two vehicles were reported vandalized at 8000 block Mandan Road (four car tires slashed) and 6900 block Hanover Parkway (wipers and rear bumper were damaged).

Theft from vehicles was reported in the following areas: 4 Olivewood Court (GPS mount); 100 block Lakeside Drive (four incidents, GPS charger, cash and keys, cash and credit card, attempted theft); 7100 block Megan Lane (rear Md. tag 1CJM90); 5900 block Greenbelt Road (both Md. tags 73V723); 3 Court Crescent Road, 7300 block Wintergreen Court and 9 Court Southway (four incidents, GPS units); 500 block Crescent Road (purse, wallet); 7100 block Mathew Street (brief case, organizer); 7800 block Hanover Parkway (rear Md. tag 08W393); and 8000 block Mandan Road (rear Md. tag 6ABG52).

Theft from Autos Rise in Center City

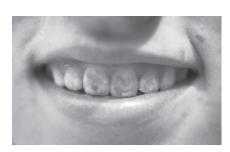
Center City Greenbelt has experienced an increase in theft from automobiles over the past two weeks. Most of these vehicles were left unlocked overnight by the owners. Greenbelt police urge residents to lock cars, especially at night, and remove the keys from the vehicle. Remove all valuables from sight, including GPS units, purses and money. Prevention is key to stopping crime.

Watch for Vandals Near the Center

In the past week there have been recurring vandalisms in and around the Old Greenbelt Community Center and Youth Center. In an effort to catch the person(s) responsible, the Greenbelt Police Department is asking all residents to keep an eye out for suspicious activity in these areas and to report any activity immediately to the police at 301-474-7200.

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BOXED: \$8.10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$12.15). Deadline 10 p.m. Tues-

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Friday, July 3, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bunker Hill Volunteer Fire Department 3716 Rhode Island Avenue, **Brentwood** Wednesday, July 8, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. USDA, 5601 Sunnyside Avenue, **Beltsville**

Friday, July 10, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Greenway Center Subway restaurant,** 7555 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt

Thursday, July 16, 2-7:30 p.m. Hyattsville City Hall, 4310 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville

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Upcoming Events at the Market

July 19: Kidsinger Jim Farm Puppet Show July 19: Buy Local Challenge Week Begins! Pledge to eat something local every day this week July 26: Buy Local Challenge Week Wrap-Up: Let us know about your week of eating local | July 26: Goat Raising and Milking Demonstration |

For more information and directions, visit

greenbeltfarmersmarket.org

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St. Hugh's Fun Fair Plans All Day Fun for July 4

by Mary Moien

St. Hugh's Church and School are teaming up to sponsor a family fun fair on Saturday, July 4. Starting at 10 a.m, the fair is an all-day event held on the church and school grounds. "Fair goers can spend the day with us and then walk to the City of Greenbelt's fireworks display at Buddy Attick Park. We've got something for the whole family to do and enjoy," said fair organizer Cindy Perry. Reverend Walter Tappe, pastor of the parish, said, "Tell your neighbors and friends that this is a community event and all are welcome." (See ad on page 3.)

One of the planned events is a bicycle-decorating contest at the Greenbelt Youth Center behind the Public Library. Decorate bikes at home; judging will be at 9:45 a.m. Participants will then parade across the Braden Field bike path at 10 a.m. to St. Hugh's in a show of patriotic proportions. Another event that pet owners will enjoy is the Patriotic Pet Contest at 10:30 a.m. at the main fair area. Shoppers will delight in the book sale and rummage sale. Vendors will display and sell their wares, including

jewelry, beauty products, quilts, fashion accessories and designer handbags.

Hot dogs, hamburgers, homebaked treats and other food and beverages will be available. John Winfrey's famous Texas barbeque, grilled to perfection by Winfrey and his crew of helpers, is also on the menu.

"We have carnival games, races, tennis and volleyball tournaments, science demonstrations, a silent auction and entertainment," said Perry. "Since we are right next to the lake, we hope to attract some of the people who go there early. We want them to stop by our fair to enjoy lots of good, old-fashioned fun. Rather than competing with the fireworks sponsored by the city, we've planned our events to complement the city's events. Our location makes this an ideal spot for a pre-fireworks celebra-

The church and school are located at 135 Crescent Road. Fair hours are from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Additional fair information and the schedule of events can be found online at www.sthughs.

Brian Booher Serves City As MML Summer Intern

by Joel Mason-Gaines and Barbara Hopkins

This year the Maryland Municipal League (MML), a nonprofit organization that supports municipal governments, se-Tected Greenbelt as one of two municipalities to participate in the league's summer internship program. The goal of the program is to foster career interest in or related to Maryland municipal govern-



track its environmental record and has created a CO2 emissions calculator. The calculator takes into account the electricity used by all of the city buildings as well as the gasoline and diesel fuel consumed by city vehicles. Booher hopes the calculator's results will help the city develop a good idea **Brian Booher** of its carbon footprint. Brian Booher, who works in

He is also working with Beverly Palau in helping to educate the public about city elections and the coming changes. He enjoys the community outreach aspect of her work.

Introduced at the council meeting on June 8, Booher told council he is "looking forward to this opportunity and ... be[ing] a part of this wonderful community."

Booher says he would one day like to work for the City of Greenbelt and enjoys local government because he likes to see policies make a difference.

Smell Gas?

the office of the city manager, is

a graduate student in the Univer-

sity of Maryland's School of Pub-

lic Policy. The 22-year-old from

Washington Grove is specializing

in environmental policy with

interests in energy efficiency and

conservation. City Manager Mi-

chael McLaughlin said he plans

to use Booher's interests to move

forward on energy sustainability

matters. Booher is currently writ-

ing a draft on energy efficiency

for city employees, encouraging

them to recycle, turn off lights

and correctly manage thermo-

stats. He is also helping the city

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FIREWORKS

continued from page 2

parked in these areas will be

Traffic Regulations

The fireworks will begin at dusk (approximately 9 p.m.) and last 20 to 30 minutes. At the end traffic will be redirected outbound on Crescent Road toward Kenilworth Avenue. Inbound traffic entering Old Greenbelt from Kenilworth Avenue will not be allowed onto Crescent Road until most of the cars have left

Motorists exiting the Beltway will not be allowed to proceed north on Kenilworth Avenue. I-95 traffic will be directed onto southbound Kenilworth Avenue. Motorists who need to go to the Old Greenbelt area can then turn left onto Greenbelt Road and make another left onto either Lakecrest Drive or Southway.

If the fireworks begin on time and no problems develop, these temporary changes in traffic patterns should not last any longer than 20 to 30 minutes from about

Calls for Information

The most commonly asked question by those who call the police dispatcher on the Fourth of July is "What time are the fireworks?" Everyone is asked to remember that police telephone lines must be kept open for those with emergencies or other policerelated concerns. Those needing additional information for any recreational event should call the Greenbelt Recreation Department at 301-474-0646.

MVA Is Closed

Friday, Saturday
The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) will close its full-service and express offices on Friday, July 3 and Saturday, July 4 in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Vehicle emissions stations will also be closed. Online registration renewals and other time-saving eMVA options remain available at www.marylandmva.com. For more information visit the website or call the MVA Customer Service Center at 1-800-950-1MVA (1682).

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NAMI Consumer Recovery Group

NAMI (National Association for the Mentally Ill) will hold its next meeting of a consumer recovery group on Wednesday, July 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Christopher's Church, 8001 Annapolis Road in New Carrollton.

Call JoAnn Anderson at 301-306-1635 or Regina Prophet at 240-353-4966 for more informa-



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On Friday, July 10 at 6 p.m., the College Park Aviation Museum will host an evening lecture about the Apollo moon landing



program by Craig Nelson, author of "Rocket Men." A regular museum fee applies.

Sixty years after Wilbur Wright taught the first military aviators how to fly in College Park, their successors landed on the moon. In 1969 the Apollo 11 mission put man on the moon and this July marks the 40th anniversary. Nelson will discuss the epic story of the first men on the moon. Limited copies of the book will be available for purchase. After the program Nelson will be available to answer questions and sign copies of his book.

For more information call 301-864-6029; TTY 301-699-2544.

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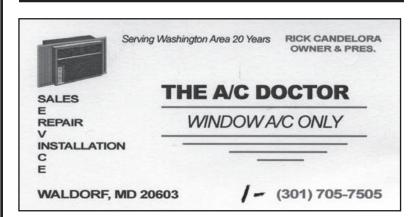
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Amazing Value - Don't miss this outstanding buy on this 2 br townhome near the woods! Fresh paint, remodeled bath & more. Beautiful! \$129,900 Brick Townhome - Close to Roosevelt Center. TUNDER townhome has a fenced garden and shed for storage.

Single-Level Living - 1 br. home on 1st floor no stairs inside! Fenced backyard with large shed and stone patio. Carpeted throughout. \$119,000

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2 Bedroom GHI Townhome - New stove & dishw., built-in microwave & modern cabinets. Updated bath, large shed in backyard and more. \$159,900 Spacious Block Townhome

Screened porch, two large bedrooms and more. Close to Roosevelt Center, library, pools and more. \$189,900

3 Bedrooms - Large Corner Lot GHI Townhom Town District Shed and patio in backyard Modern cabinets & council 18,900 Lower Level 1 Bedroom GHI Home -

Granite countertops and modern open

kitchen. Fenced yard with space for entertaining. Priced right at \$105,000. Three Bedroom Townhome - Lovely townhome w/sliding patio doors that opens onto deck, shaded yard and garden area. Remodeled kit. \$182,900 One Bedroom Home - One level living backs to large open space. Enjoy the birds and other wildlife. Modern Cabinets. Shed included, too! \$117,900

Block Townhome - Near Center - 2 br. townhome with large 11' x 17' Master bedroom. Fresh paint, modern kitchen and more. \$174,900

Townhome With Addition - First-level addition with extra half-bath - room opens onto private deck. Two bedrooms and remodeled bath upstairs.

Value Priced! - Bright, cheerful, sparkling 3 be Rought after GHI. Beautiful nardwood floors, fresh paint CONTERACT,900 Townhome With Garage - 2 Bedroom GHI townhome within walking distance to Roosevelt Center. Backs to open space. Tastefully decorated. \$189,900 Corner Lot - 3 br. GHI townhome w large deck that backs to woods. Fresh

large fenced yard & shed. \$189,900 Two Story Addition - Townhome on large cornul Nt D The to wooded

paint, opened kit., w/d, ceiling fans,

Completely Remodeled - 3 Br townhome with ceramic tile in kitchen and dining area. Amazing bathroom. Fresh paint, modern kitchen. Wow! \$186,900 Two Bedroom GHI Townhome

Freshly parties in the last stove and modern refrigerator. Fiberglass tu surro GOODA had to 2 100

Brick Townhome - Large 11' x 17 master bedroom, 2nd bedroom oak hardwood flooring & bath on top level. Garden space & patio, too! \$238,000

Large Master Bedroom - 2 Br. GHI townhome with 11' x 17' master br. Concrete block construction. Walking distance to Roosevelt Center. \$195,000

Your Greenbelt Specialists

"The Devil's Carol" Homegrown Musical

by Penny Eileen Martin

"The Devil's Christmas Carol" is an original musical with book, music and lyrics by me, Penny Martin. The world premiere performance will be at the Capital Fringe Festival in July but it was born, nurtured and raised in Greenbelt.

The adventure was born with a poem called "Chains" that I wrote and brought to my voice teacher. Greenbelter Izolda Trakhtenberg. "Chains" was inspired by the chains weighted with money bags and cashboxes that Jacob Marley wears in Dicken's "A Christmas Carol." I was struck by the idea that people are weighed down by their inability to let go of their past actions and mistakes more than by money or possessions. Trakhtenberg encouraged me to set the poem to music.

I will never know whether it was the effect of having seen way too many performances of "A Christmas Carol" or too many theatrical "Hell Weeks" (the week before opening night when there can be rehearsals every night of the week, actors grow tired and tempers short) that inspired me most. Possibly, it was simply too much caffeine at four in the morning. In any case, the idea of a theatre company of lost souls performing "A Christmas Carol" endlessly in Hell seemed to grow naturally out of "Chains."

When I realized that Tiny Tim could be someone who wasn't a child and didn't have a limp and that Scrooge could be a shy young woman rather than a cantankerous old man, I was off and running with what I hoped would be a new and exciting twist on an old story.

SPOILER ALERT: Although the play is about "A Christmas Carol" it isn't a performance of "A Christmas

As I continued to write the script, the Christmas Carol characters grew to become people I knew and I was eager to find out what they would do and say next.

"The Devil's Christmas Carol" started with a song and as I continued to write the story of Tim and Scrooge, Bob Cratchit and the rest of hell of a good time.

the "Christmas Carol" gang, I found that there were places where the actors could explain or express themselves more clearly through song, so I wrote lyrics to go with the developing script.

Eventually I had a script and some lyrics but I was more than a few musical numbers shy of a show. After approaching a number of people about putting my lyrics to music, I realized that it was time to put my musical background to work. With the aid of professional music writing software I had a digital orchestra at my fingertips. This turned out to be really useful when, due to working a fulltime job, I found myself composing music at two in the morning.

Armed with a script, a CD with some musical numbers, enthusiasm and a certain amount of straight up pigheaded stubbornness, I approached Betsy Marks Delaney, Artistic Director of OutOftheBlackBox Theatre Company (O2B2) and newly arrived Greenbelt citizen, with a proposal for performing the work at the 2009 Capital Fringe Festival.

Fortunately for me O2B2was willing to sponsor the production and Betsy Delaney agreed to direct the show.

It's been an amazing opportunity with a talented cast of actors, including local actors and Greenbelt residents Phil Brandis as Bob Cratchit, Candy Madigan as The Charitable Woman and Kindra Gresham as Belle.

We'll be performing at The Mountain at Mount Vernon Place United Methodist Church, 900 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington DC, 20001, on Saturday, July 11 at 5 p.m.; Sunday, July 12 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, July 19 at 3:45 p.m.; and Saturday, July 25 at 10 p.m. Tickets go on sale June 22 at www.capitalfringe.org and will also be available by phone at 866-811-4111 and from the Fringe Festival Box Office on July 7 at Fort Fringe, 607 New York Ave NW, WDC. For more information visit O2B2's website at www.O2B2.org.

Come and see us at the Fringe Fest. You'll have a



The Charitable Woman (Candy Madigan) and Mr. Fezziwig (BJ Mitchell) scold two urchins (Katie and Erin Delaney) in The Devil's Christmas Carol.

Brian O'Neill's "Mayor" **Essay Is a GES Winner**

The following essay from fourth-grade student Brian O'Neill was the winner of the "If I Were Mayor" contest at Greenbelt Elementary School.

Brian is interested in history and politics. He researched his entry by using the city's website and articles in the News Review as sources. The Maryland Municipal League (MML) sponsors the annual contest for all fourthgraders in the state. Amarachi Ibe of St. Hugh's School and Bella Juwita of Springhill Lake Elementary School were featured in last week's issue. Their essays are among the finalists for Prince George's County. The contest is geared to educate students about municipal government and the role of a mayor. There were 2,895 students statewide who submitted an essay.

Brian originally wrote a 475word essay, which he gave to his teacher. Then he learned from the MML website that the contest limited the word count to 275. He revised his essay and found a way to convey his ideas within the shorter essay form. Here is Brian's winning essay for his

"If I Were Mayor"

by Brian O'Neill

If I were mayor, I would make Greenbelt a greener city. I would support The Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Act of 2009, which lowers Maryland's greenhouse gas emissions by 25% between the years 2006-2020. As mayor of Greenbelt, I would ensure our city does its part to reduce greenhouse gases.

I would decrease auto emissions by encouraging walking, bicycling and the use of mass transit. A Greenbelt Circulator bus would connect all residential, recreational, shopping centers and the Metro. I would consider constructing additional bicycle lanes and safe pedestrian walkways. Any city vehicles purchased would be hybrid.

I would study the feasibility of using alternative power sources for city buildings. Perhaps grants from the federal government or ecological groups could be obtained for the installation of solar panels. City buildings would have energy efficient windows and lighting.

I would increase recycling by accepting a wider variety of materials and offering a city pick up of large recyclable elec-

As mayor, I would encourage citizen involvement. Residents would assist city council by joining advisory committees including: recycling and environment, trees and forest preserves. To celebrate Earth Day, T-shirts would be designed and sold. The money raised would be used to purchase and plant trees. We would organize clean up events of parks, forest preserves and water systems. All participants would be recognized at a ceremony. Greenbelt would participate in Earth Hour, an annual event started in Sydney, Australia where cities have unnecessary lights turned off for one hour.

The Greenbelt mayor, other councilmembers, city residents and all Earth's citizens must work together to ensure a greener planet for generations to come!



Visiting Greenbelt on Tuesday June 30 were the Peter Mayer family from Greenhills, Ohio, Greenbelt's sister city. They stopped for lunch and a city tour on their way from sightseeing in Washington to visiting in Philadelphia. Mayer is employed in the city's contract post office and also does layout and design for the Greenhills Journal, the volunteer staffed monthly newspaper for the village. His wife Jackie is a proofreader for the paper. They lunched with News Review Editor Mary Lou Williamson and Jim and Bernie Giese at the newly-opened Williams American Bistro at Beltway Plaza. Besides the volunteer newspapers and contract post offices, the group found many other commonalities such as old schools converted to community centers, once identical swimming pools, lakes and greenbelts. Following lunch the Mayers, with son Joey and Williamson displayed their respective newspapers for the camera. The Mayers then visited the Municipal Building and Greenbelt Museum and took a look about town.

Mt. Calvert Open House Successful Despite Rain

by Virginia Beauchamp

What do the Greenbelt Library and Mount Calvert, a colonial mansion on the Patuxent River, have in common?

Answer: In a space of about one year, a two-room suite in the library and the second floor of the mansion have both been dedicated as facilities of the Prince George's County Historical Society. Representing different centuries, the two are joined as significant venues in the timeline of our county's history.

Greenbelters, of course, know the significance of our town as the first of three Depression-era planned communities created by the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration. But they may not know the history of Mount Calvert as the sole surviving structure of the 1697 first capital of our county. A few years later the colonial capital was moved to the larger, developing community of Upper Marlboro, where it has remained ever since.

DeMarr Library

The Frederick S. DeMarr Library of Prince George's County History was dedicated in Greenbelt on May 31 last year; this year, on June 4 an open house welcomed society members and friends to the newly repaired and rehabilitated colonial mansion, Mount Calvert, on the shores of the Patuxent River not far from Jug Bay. Members and guests were invited to browse through exhibits on the main floor of the structure, including early Indian artifacts.

Although guests had been promised an opportunity to see archeological digs in progress and to take pontoon boat rides, an all-day rain had forced the cancellation of both events. Luckily during the hour or so that guests were arriving, the rain held off and all present including this reporter – could

enjoy a catered supper.

Two large double awnings had been erected on the lawn before the building to shelter the attendees and rows of chairs set up to accommodate them during the short program that followed. A vocal group, the Ship's Company Chanteymen in 18th-century sailors' garb provided a great variety of à capella nautical songs to enliven the proceedings.

In the near-darkness of the threatening storm and under the dark, overhead canvas - it had functioning microphones but no lights – officials of the historical society and representatives of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), owner of the facility, conducted a short, informal program of welcome to the society's new home office. Society Director Elizabeth Dougherty served as master of ceremonies and long-time society member and Maryland Senate President Mike Miller offered greetings.

Dougherty also announced the placement of a commemorative bench on the grounds of Mount Calvert in honor of the late William Uber of Greenbelt who, together with his wife, Stella, ran the society's gift shop at the Marietta Mansion for many years. Mr. Uber died on May 4, 2009.

The society vacated its former office at Marietta, which is now undergoing renovation by the M-NCPPC. The library, now in Greenbelt, had been established and was operated for many years at Marietta.

As the events at Mount Calvert concluded and the skies grew darker, we walked out from under the canvas shelter where the program had taken place. And then, as we hurried to our cars, the rains began again.